

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 In order to evaluate the quality of a signal recorded on an optical
recording medium, a target signal is obtained based on a predetermined data
string and a predetermined partial response characteristic, and for each clock
cycle, an equalization error is calculated that is a difference between the target
signal and a signal reproduced each clock cycle. Further, the product of the
equalization errors calculated at different times is obtained, and based on the
10 obtained product, the quality of a signal is evaluated.